

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 784

By Kent

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the football team of Germantown High School on capturing the 2003 TSSAA Class 5A State Championship.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful high school teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this state; and

WHEREAS, the Germantown High School Red Devils achieved unmatched success during the 2003 season by winning the state football championship in TSSAA Class 5A designation; and

WHEREAS, in Coach Charlie White's first season, the Red Devils built upon legendary Coach Ken Netherland's legacy of success, and their devotion of time and energy precipitated the program's first championship run in two decades; and

WHEREAS, the Red Devils opened the season with an impressive 31-7 win over Covington and maintained their focus throughout the season to post an impressive record of fourteen wins and one loss; and

WHEREAS, Germantown was undefeated against Division I teams, losing only to Division II powerhouse Christian Brothers in a hard fought game; and

WHEREAS, the determined team carried their momentum into the state playoffs and disposed of all challengers in order to reach the BlueCross Bowl in Murfreesboro on December 6, 2003; and

WHEREAS, the Germantown Red Devils posted a 10-7 victory over perennial power Riverdale in the championship game, thus establishing themselves unquestionably as the finest Tennessee team in their classification; and

WHEREAS, they achieved their remarkable success by utilizing an extraordinary combination of explosive offense and stifling defense; the team averaged thirty-three points per game while allowing only ten points per contest; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Sports Writers Association recognized Rashaud Cole, Jake Kasser, and Carlos Dixon on its All-State team, and the Associated Press named them as members of its All-State First Team; the Tennessee Football Coaches Association also selected Jake Kasser as a member of its All-State squad; and

WHEREAS, the TSWA also named Charlie White as Class 5A Coach of the Year in his first season as head coach; and

WHEREAS, the Red Devils earned numerous awards as individuals, but the greatest honor they won was the one that they all received, the title of state champions; and

WHEREAS, the laudable young men who earned that honor were Seniors Mack Gipson, Brandon Patterson, Spencer Strickland, Carlos Dixon, Nicholas Hardy, Blake Reed, Jeremie Byrd, Lee Smith, Jake Kasser, Darrell Harris, Zach West, John Welsh, D.J. Leaks, Allen Toney, Josh Wyatt, Islam Bahur, Michael Ross, Enrico Turner, Matt Davis, Rashaud Cole, and Matt McGahee; Juniors Noy Garrett, Ray Deveraux, Kelvin Young, Hayden King, Tristan Ramsey, Marico Pierce, Vinnie Zarzoli, Ramod Traylor, Quinton Taliaferro, Damien Burnett, Nick Metcalf, Spero Peters, C.J. Middleton, Terry Bowman, Terry Webster, Darius Hence, Joseph Burgan, Daniel Prate, Gordon Bowen, Khari Mays, Chris Peterson, Ryan Swindall, Blaine Pecanty, Gabriel Bell, Greg Gillum, Jeff Cottam, Andy Flansburg, Jeff Ingam, Watson Boyd, and Donovan Cole; and Sophomores Zach Berry, Austin Tutor, Devin Rossell, Mason Matthews, Ron Brewer, Kevin Robinson, Ben Kliman, Brian Bates, Keith Ivy, George Barnes, Tykee Wilson, Josh Davis, Marcel Brown, Robert Jones, Raphel Onwu, Kyle Sheets, Adam Houpt, Justin Asquith, Robbie Witt, Jonathan Looney, and Chris Lane; and

WHEREAS, Head Coach Charlie White and his outstanding assistant coaches laid the groundwork for the championship season by sharing their substantial knowledge of football with the young men on the team; and

WHEREAS, the football players at Germantown High School epitomize all that is good in today's student-athlete, as they have achieved the highest level of success on the gridiron while

showing the highest degree of character both on and off the field; they inspired the student body and united their entire community completing their remarkable 2003 season; and

WHEREAS, the dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young men not only made possible a championship football season, but also surely bode well for their success in every future endeavor; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the Germantown Red Devils for winning the 2003 TSSAA Class 5A state football championship and serving as examples of the high quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that this Body joins the administration, faculty, students, and community of Germantown High School in congratulating the Red Devil coaches and players on their remarkable championship season and wish them every future success, both on and off the gridiron.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.